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EXHIBIT 2
DATE 4.3.07
~~SB~~ SJ 13

Resolution on Funding of the National Parks, Battlefields and Monuments

Preamble

A resolution by Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission urging Montana's congressional delegation to recognize the great present and future natural, cultural and economic value provided by Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks, national battlefields and monuments to the businesses and citizens of the state. Urging the delegation to recognize the well documented chronic under funding of the nation's national park system that puts national parks, battlefields and monuments located in the state, together with the Montana businesses and workers that depend upon them, at risk. Further urging the delegation to actively initiate, promote and support appropriation measures to authorize full funding of National Park Service annual operation budget and elimination of park, battlefield and monument maintenance and road repair backlogs.

WHEREAS, Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission has a great interest in ensuring that health, public and economic benefits, and welfare of the state's national park, battlefields and monuments are well maintained and protected for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks generate substantial economic benefit for Montana through employment, tax revenues, visitor spending, business expenditures to service visitors, NPS expenditures for park employee salaries, supplies, services, construction and maintenance programs, etc.; and

WHEREAS, a General Accountability Office (GAO) report released in 2006 documented National Park System operating budgets, when adjusted for inflation, are declining, further, the accommodation of newly mandated responsibilities including rising energy prices, homeland security requirements, congressionally approved pay raises and other mandates have resulted in substantial park operations cutbacks, and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service has identified between \$4.9 billion and \$7 billion backlog of overdue maintenance, road and other infrastructure repair resulting from decades of annual shortfalls in parks' operation budgets; and

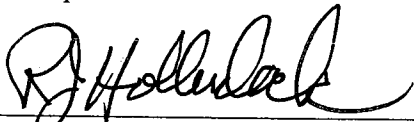
WHEREAS, a series of business plan analyses conducted by business and policy experts in conjunction with the National Park Service indicate that the parks' ANNUAL operations budget shortfall is in excess of \$600 million, at least 32 percent short of what is needed to operate all national parks and an estimated 36 percent short of the amount needed to operate Glacier



National Park (equating to an estimated \$4,250,000 shortfall of the FY06 approved budget base¹); and

WHEREAS, chronic under funding puts our parks, battlefields, monuments communities, economies and businesses at risk and thwarts the National Park mandate "to provide for the enjoyment of the [parks] in such a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission supports full funding of the National Park Service annual operations budgets and elimination of maintenance and road repair backlogs for all park, battlefield and monument units. We urge Montana's congressional delegation to actively initiate, promote and support appropriations to accomplish these measures.



President Signature



Executive Director Signature

Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to a balanced partnership among eight western Montana counties (Flathead, Glacier, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli, and Sanders), Glacier National Park, and other entities, to effectively market the region to visitors and educate the public regarding the value of tourism, while encouraging respect for our outstanding natural environment and quality of life.

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¹ Gary Brandow, Administrative Officer, Glacier National Park